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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/733,380	12/12/2003	Koki Okamura	FJ-2003-046-US	8530

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EXAMINER

PANNALA, SATHYANARAYA R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2164

DATE MAILED: 11/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/733,380	Applicant(s) OKAMURA, KOKI	
	Examiner Sathyanarayan Pannala	Art Unit 2164	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 September 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Applicant's Amendment filed on 9/05/2006 has been entered with amended claims 1-4 and newly added claims 5-14. In this Office Action, claims 1-14 are pending.

Response to Amendment

2. The declaration filed on 9/5/2006 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is ineffective to overcome the Allam (USPA Pub. 2004/0139400) reference because of the following reasons:
 - The proposed reply filed on 9/5/2006 has not been entered because it is unsigned.
 - The declaration does not contain the invention disclosure statement correlating to the claims.
 - The declaration does not contain explanation of the contents of the invention disclosure document.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Allam et al. (USPA Pub. 2004/0139400 A1) hereinafter Allam, and in view of Pruett et al. (US Patent 5,778,389) hereinafter Pruett.

5. As per independent claim 1, Allam teaches a system and method for displaying and viewing electronic information (page 2, paragraph [0034]). Allam teaches the claimed, when a file stored in a first folder is selected to be stored into a second folder, comparing a filename of the selected file with a filename of each file already stored in the second folder, as the computer world where files are stored in electronic file folders and either moved or copied between them (page 10, paragraph [0098]). Allam does not explicitly teach checking whether the same name exists on the second folder. However, Pruett teaches the claimed, if the second folder contains no file having a filename same as the selected file, storing the selected file into the second folder (Fig. 2B, col. 6,

lines 42-44). Pruett teaches the claimed, if the second folder contains a file having a filename same as the selected file (Fig. 2B, col. 6, lines 44-48). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Pruett's teachings would have allowed Allam's method to provide an automatic synchronization of directories in order to eliminate inefficient and time-consuming method by using standard operating system commands (col. 1, lines 56-58). Finally, Allam teaches the claimed, to display thumbnail images and file information of the selected file and the file having the same filename together on a display device (Fig. 3, page 4, paragraph [0047]).

6. As per dependent claim 2, Allam teaches the claimed, if at least one of the selected file and the file having the same filename comprises a movie file, displaying a first frame of the movie as the thumbnail image thereof on the display device, and to playing back the movie upon operation to the thumbnail image (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

7. As per dependent claim 3, Allan teaches the claimed, if at least one of the selected file and the file having the same filename comprises an audio file, displaying an icon image as the thumbnail image thereof on the display device, the icon image indicating that the file is audio, and to playing back the audio upon operation to the icon image (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

8. As per independent claim 4, Allam teaches a system and method for displaying and viewing electronic information (page 2, paragraph [0034]). Allam teaches the claimed, when an audio file stored in a first folder is selected to be stored into a second folder, comparing a filename of the selected file with a filename of each file already stored in the second folder, as the computer world where files are stored in electronic file folders and either moved or copied between them (page 10, paragraph [0098]).

Allam teaches the claimed, to attach a filename to the selected file and store the selected file into the second folder (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]). Allam teaches the claimed, Allam teaches the claimed, displaying an icon image on a display device, the icon image indicating that the file is audio, for the selected file and an audio file stored in the second folder (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]). Allam teaches the claimed "to play back the audio upon operation to the icon image" (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

9. As per independent claims 5, 8, Allam teaches a system and method for displaying and viewing electronic information (page 2, paragraph [0034]). Allam teaches the claimed, comparing a filename of at least one of an image file, a movie file, and an audio file which is stored in a first folder, and which is selected to be stored into a second folder, with a filename of each file already stored in the second folder, as the computer world where files are stored in electronic file folders and either moved or copied between them (page 10, paragraph [0098]). Allam does not explicitly teach

Art Unit: 2164

checking whether the same name exists on the second folder. However, Pruett teaches the claimed, storing the selected file into the second folder when the second folder contains no file having a filename which is same as the selected file Pruett teaches the claimed, if the second folder contains a file having a filename same as the selected file (Fig. 2B, col. 6, lines 42-44). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Pruett's teachings would have allowed Allam's method to provide an automatic synchronization of directories in order to eliminate inefficient and time-consuming method by using standard operating system commands (col. 1, lines 56-58). Allam does not explicitly teach checking whether the same name exists on the second folder. However, Pruett teaches the claimed, if the second folder contains no file having a filename same as the selected file, storing the selected file into the second folder (Fig. 2B, col. 6, lines 42-44). Pruett teaches the claimed, if the second folder contains a file having a filename same as the selected file (Fig. 2B, col. 6, lines 44-48). Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the data processing art at the time of the invention, to have combined the teachings of the cited references because Pruett's teachings would have allowed Allam's method to provide an automatic synchronization of directories in order to eliminate inefficient and time-consuming method by using standard operating system commands (col. 1, lines 56-58). Finally, Allam teaches the claimed, displaying, when the second folder contains a file having a filename that is the same as the selected file, a thumbnail image and file

Art Unit: 2164

information of the selected file together with a thumbnail image and file information of the file having the same filename on a display (Fig. 3, page 4, paragraph [0047]).

10. As per dependent claims 6, 11, Allam teaches the claimed, if at least one of the selected file and the file having the same filename comprises a movie file, said method further comprising: displaying a first frame of a movie included in said movie file as the thumbnail image thereof on the display device (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

11. As per dependent claims 7, 12, Allam teaches the claimed, playing back the movie upon operation to the thumbnail image (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

12. As per dependent claims 8, 13, Allam teaches the claimed, if at least one of the selected file and the file having the same filename comprises an audio file, said method further comprising: displaying an icon image as the thumbnail image thereof on the display device, wherein the icon image indicates that the file comprises audio (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

13. As per dependent claims 9, 14, Allam teaches the claimed, playing back the audio upon operation to the icon image (Fig. 7, page 4, paragraph [0052]).

Response to Arguments

14. Applicant's arguments filed on 9/5/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive and details as follows:

- a) The declaration is not considered and the reasons are listed in the Response to Amendment section.
- b) Amended claims as well as new claims are rejected with the same prior art.

Conclusion

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2164

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Sathyanarayan Pannala whose telephone number is (571) 272-4115. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Rones can be reached on (571) 272-4085. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.


Sathyanarayan Pannala
Primary Examiner

srp
November 22, 2006